One of the more prominent of December’s releases was Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol. It has been a huge box office draw, largely due to, according to many, quality as much as hype. It has been lauded as excellent by critics and audiences, and this is a standpoint most CCHS students seem to share.

The story is only tangentially related to the previous movies, providing an easy gateway into the franchise for new audiences. After a bombing at the Kremlin, the Mission Impossible team is branded responsible. Forced to go undercover to avoid capture, and working without any sort of backup from higher levels, they must recover nuclear launch codes from a fanatic and prevent nuclear war.

The film is similar to a high-budget, Bond-esque action movie, but reaches beyond that. “There was a lot of development of the supporting characters, also.”, said Junior Matt Mayernik. The supporting characters all have at least something to do, a rare element in an action movie that is not always there but that is always appreciated when it exists.

‘The acting was kind of cheesy, but other than that, it was really good.” The acting is essentially what you expect from a big action movie, but it’s not all bad. Simon Pegg’s character is endlessly amusing and well-acted. Tom Cruise gives a fairly decent performance as well.

The plot is coherent and effectively entertaining. In a world where many movies are all noise and fury, and not much else, this is unexpected and pleasant. The plot was well developed, the characters easy to remember, and the movie certainly does not skimp on the action in favor of the plot.

“The action was really good.” Said Kevin Shroat. And it really was. The big budget of the movie made for some insanely spectacular action sequences, consisting of everything from characters scaling an incredibly tall skyscraper in high winds to driving a high-speed car chase in a sandstorm. Every action sequence was very well-filmed and well-done, and guaranteed to keep you on the edge of your seat.

The movie, according to most major reviewers as well as most of Charlotte Catholic, is well worth a view, whether you are looking for a well-done movie, lots of action, or just a rollicking good time.